

**TT No.34: Gyles Basey-Fisher** - Sat 28th August 2010; **Selby Town v Ossett Albion**; FA Cup Preliminary Round; KO: 3pm; Result: 0-4; Admission: £5.00; Programme: £1.50 (20 pages); Attendance: 113.

I forgot about the Bank Holiday traffic so my journey to Selby was elongated by an hour. The A17 and caravans don't mix!

Like Hertford Town, the other week, this was my type of ground. You enter via turnstiles next to the clubhouse, which is on the halfway line. To the left are three rows of old terracing; in the corner is a toilet block, which is fenced off and behind the goal to your left is a full-length cover with a mixture of four rows of terracing nearest. Beyond is an area of wooden seating followed by flat standing featuring the name 'Selby Town FC' which can be picked out in large red letters on the back wall. The far side used to have a stand, but this is long gone so only the changing rooms survive. The far end has a concrete step and contours which may suggest that another step used to exist (the archaeologist, in me, is coming out again). Immediately behind the goal is a concrete base with a modular cover terrace which has weathered well and fits in nicely! The near side, back towards the clubhouse, has the remains of two rows of terracing, but this is now out of bounds and a portacabin has been positioned over some of the old terracing.

This was my first taste of the FA Cup action this season, due to the offer of a lift in a car going to Morecambe for their first league game. As always you try and pick a game with a chance of an upset, Selby Town had started well with a 100% record in all competitions, so the odds were good?

The first chance of the game fell to Selby when a free kick missed everyone except Adam Russell running in free at the far post, but he failed to connect properly with the ball and the keeper managed to block the effort for a corner. On 33 minutes Selby's Jack Debnham was left pole-axed by the on-rushing Ossett keeper but the game carried on and a cross by Shane Kelsey saw a diving header by Tom Copping put Ossett Albion on 1-0 up. On 41 minutes Shane Kelsey was put through and after trying to beat the keeper on his near post, the stopper saved with his legs. 3 minutes later the Selby keeper rolled out the ball to defender James McDaid and his weighted ball over the top left Adam Russell with only the keeper to beat; his lob looked goal-bound until a last-minute clearance by an Ossett defender. In first half injury time Ossett's Shane Kelsey out-paced the Selby defence and shot across the keeper who made a fine one handed save. The final action of the first half came when Selby's Jammal Shahin turned his man in the box, but fired over much to his own disappointment.

The second half started brightly for Selby when Jack Debnham fired a shot across the 6 yard box, but no one could get the killer touch; on 49 minutes Ossett doubled their lead when Dale Kelly found himself with space on the right hand side of the box - he could have shot but squared the ball and Richard Tracey had the

simple task of putting the ball into the net. Selby didn't give up and quickly created two chances: first a volley by Kirk Wheeler was hit into the ground and bounced over the top and then a cross from Jack Debnham was headed just wide by Ricky Belding. Ossett delivered the knock-out blow on 57 minutes when Shane Kelsey created some space in midfield and produced a lovely weighted ball around the back of the defence where Richard Tracey fired home from 6 yards. Albion were now completely in control when Ryan White used his strength to beat off a Selby midfielder, cut in and un-leashed a powerful shot that Paul Fraser could only parry and Dale Kelly had the simplest of tap-ins on 69 minutes making it 0-4. In the last few minutes, the ever-lively Shane Kelsey beat the offside trap, ran in on goal, but his shot rebounded off the post and away. A minute later he beat the offside trap again and looked to have been pulled down, but the referee waved play on and seconds later following a foul his frustration nearly got him into the referee's note book.

Finally I must just say thank you to the referee, during his warm up he noticed me taking pictures so he walked over and wanted to know where I came from, where I was going next and how many grounds I had visited, he was genuinely interested and wished me all the best on my travels.

07/20